

EMBARGOED UNTIL 10:30 P.M. THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2025

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Starlight Celebrates Area High School Students with 2025 Blue Star Awards Ceremony



Starlight's 23rd Annual Blue Star Awards Ceremony was held Thursday, May 15, 2025.

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Starlight is pleased to share the 2024-25 Blue Star Awards winners, who were just announced in a red-carpet ceremony at Starlight Theatre Thursday, May 15. Thirty four winners took home the top prizes in 31 categories, and \$10,000 in monetary prizes were awarded to deserving high school students. The ceremony also featured 10 onstage performances.

Modeled after Broadway's Tony Awards®, Starlight's annual Blue Star Awards recognize achievement and excellence in musical theatre among Kansas City area high school students. In the 2024-25 Blue Star Awards season, a record-breaking 66 schools and nearly 5,300 metro students participated, making it one of the largest and most respected high school musical awards programs in the nation.

The 2025 Blue Star Awards were made possible by an anonymous donor with support from Jeff Ayers, The Jeannette & Jerome Cohen Philanthropic Fund of the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Kansas City, The Mary Elizabeth Martin Scholarship Trust US Bank N.A., Trustee, and Starlight's community engagement program benefactors.

In order of announcement at the Blue Star Awards Ceremony, the full list of winners can be found below.

MORE

2024-25 Blue Star Awards Winners

Ceremony Ensemble Scholarships

Finley Pennington – Platte County High School

Kaitlyn Seim – Platte County High School

Louisa Bartlett – Shawnee Mission Northwest

Outstanding Performer in a Featured Role, Tier II

Lauren Knight as Madame de la Grande Bouche

Lee's Summit West High School

Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*

Outstanding Performer in a Featured Role, Tier I

Syerra Funderburke as Berthe

Ruskin High School

Pippin

Outstanding Orchestra, Tier II

Raymore-Peculiar High School

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

Outstanding Orchestra, Tier I

Lawrence High School

Hadestown: Teen Edition

Creative Contribution Award

Rozella Ranes for Choreography

Park Hill South High School

Technical Contribution Award

Aldric Yang for Stage Management and Sound Design

Rockhurst High School

Outstanding Costume Design, Tier II

Central High School

Elf The Musical

Outstanding Costume Design, Tier I

Harrisonville High School

Mamma Mia!

Outstanding Hair and Makeup Design, Tier II

Olathe South High School

The Pirates of Penzance

MORE

Outstanding Hair and Makeup Design, Tier I

Bishop Miege High School

She Loves Me

Outstanding Performer in a Supporting Role, Tier II

Jalen Mack as Eddie Souther

Park Hill High School

Sister Act

Outstanding Performer in a Supporting Role, Tier I

Charlotte Sweet as Rosie Mulligan

Platte County High School

Mamma Mia!

Outstanding Ensemble, Tier II

Raymore-Peculiar High School

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

Outstanding Ensemble, Tier I

Blue Springs South High School

Fiddler on the Roof

Community Impact Award

Liberty North High School

Anastasia The Musical

Dream Production Award

Ashlyn Warren for Direction

Olathe West High School

Outstanding Technical Crew, Tier II

Lighting Crew

Park Hill South High School

Hadestown: Teen Edition

Outstanding Technical Crew, Tier I

Set Crew

Excelsior Springs High School

Mamma Mia!

Outstanding Lighting Design, Tier II

Park Hill South High School

Hadestown: Teen Edition

MORE

Outstanding Lighting Design, Tier I

Basehor-Linwood High School

Anastasia The Musical

Sophomore Rising Star Scholarship

Maddy Heits – Liberty High School

Junior Rising Star Scholarship

Addy Davis – Olathe West High School

Senior Rising Star Scholarship

Cameron Hargrove – Blue Valley Southwest High School

Outstanding Scenic Design, Tier II

Park Hill South High School

Hadestown: Teen Edition

Outstanding Scenic Design, Tier I

Platte County High School

Mamma Mia!

Outstanding Performer in a Lead Role, Tier II

Megan Sheehan as Orpheus

Park Hill South High School

Hadestown: Teen Edition

Outstanding Performer in a Lead Role, Tier I

Supha Yates as SpongeBob SquarePants

Fort Osage High School

The SpongeBob Musical

Jimmy Awards – Best Actress

Hadley Wilson

Blue Valley Northwest High School

Mamma Mia!

Jimmy Awards – Best Actor

Caden Barner

Liberty North High School

Anastasia The Musical

MORE

Outstanding Overall Production, Tier II

Park Hill South High School

Hadestown: Teen Edition

Outstanding Overall Production, Tier I

Platte County High School

Mamma Mia!

About Starlight

Opened as a theatre in 1950 and a nonprofit organization in 1951, Starlight is the largest and oldest performing arts organization in Kansas City, Missouri, and connects our community through live arts experiences that entertain, inspire, and engage audiences of all ages. Offering diverse programming year-round, Starlight presents Broadway musicals, concert events, and extensive community engagement programming, including classes, scholarships, and one of the largest high school musical theatre award programs in the nation. Located on 16 acres in Swope Park, the historic, city-owned venue is the second-largest outdoor producing theatre in the country with almost 8,000 seats.

Follow Starlight on social media @kcstarlight and visit kcstarlight.com for more information.

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